

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 04112 270859 Z

20

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

----- 061840

P R 270759 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8542

INFO CINCPAC

S E C R E T SEOUL 4112

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, KS

SUBJECT: ROK FOREIGN POLICY CHANGE AND MODERNIZATION PLAN

REF: STATE 118917

1. RE PARA 2 REFTEL. ROKG HAS NOT RAISED MOD PLAN IN CONTEXT ITS FOREIGN POLICY CHANGES, AND I DO NOT EXPECT IT TO COME UP IN OUR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS ON QUESTIONS RELATING TO UNC TERMINATION AND UN TACTICS. HOWEVER, ANY USG ATTEMPT TO MAKE MAJOR UNILATERAL CHANGES IN MOD PLAN NOW WOULD ELICIT A STRONGLY NEGATIVE REACTION FROM ROKG. IN PROTESTING SUCH CHANGES ROKG WOULD IN ITS ARGUMENTS LINK NEED FOR MOD PLAN FULFILLMENT TO FOREIGN POLICY CHANGES. WHILE WE CAN HANDLE SOME CONFLICT ON THIS BETWEEN OURSELVES AND ROK, IT WOULD NOT BE WISE TO TRY TO FORCE A MAJOR CONFRONTATION ON MOD PLAN IN PRESENT SITUATION.

2. I WOULD THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT WE LIMIT ANY APPROACHES ON MOD PLAN IN COMING MONTHS TO FOLLOWING :

A. CONFIRM TO ROKG OUR FIRM INTENTION TO BE OUT OF GRANT O& M BY END OF FY75 AND INSIST ROKG INCREASE ITS OWN O& M SPENDING TO LEVELS SUFFICIENT TO MAINTAIN THE EQUIPMENT WE PROVIDE;

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SEOUL 04112 270859 Z

B. CONFIRM OUR INTENTION TO DEVOTE RELATIVELY GREATER EMPHASIS ON MODERNIZATION OF AIR DEFENSE WITHOUT MAJOR CHANGE TO THE KINDS AND QUANTITIES IN THE MOD PLAN AS NOW DEVELOPED. IN DOING THIS WE WOULD PROVIDE MND OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ITS VIEWS ON HOW TO ACHIEVE THIS CHANGE IN EMPHASIS. (JUSMAG AND MND OFFICIALS HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THIS AS PART OF THE DELIBERATION OF THE ROK/ U. S. AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ROK FORCES MODERNIZATION. ADDITIONALLY, MND HAS TOLD COMUSK IT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT ADDITIONAL COSTS, EITHER ROK BUDGET OR FMS, SUPPORTED, FOR ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT BUYS IN THE AIR DEFENSE AREA, SUBSEQUENT TO COMPLETION OF THE MOC PLAN): AND

C. WARN KOREANS THAT, GIVEN CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION, THERE IS LIKELIHOOD OF MOD PLAN STRETCH- OUT AND INCREASED USE OF FMS. WE SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, GIVE KOREANS DETAILED PROJECTIONS OF STEEPLY REDUCED GRANT AND GREATLY INCREASED FMS FOR FY 75-78 PERIOD. THAT SHOULD FOLLOW CONGRESSIONAL ACTION OF THIS YEAR'S SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

3. THE ABOVE ITEMS WILL CAUSE A NEGATIVE REACTION BUT ONE WHICH I BELIEVE CAN BE HANDLED WITHOUT MAJOR EFFECT ON IMPORT ISSUES CONNECTED WITH ROKG FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVE. FURTHER, WE CAN CONFINE DISCUSSIONS ON THOSE POINTS TO JUSMAG- MND CHANNELS WITHOUT INTERFERING WITH OUR HIGH- LEVEL EXCHANGES ON POLICY.

4. I DO NOT RECOMMEND PRESSING KOREANS ON REDUCING KOREAN FORCE LEVELS. WE SHOULD NOT GET CAUGHT UP IN THAT POLITICALLY SENSITIVE ISSUE , PARTICULARLY WHEN O& M PRESSURES ON THE BUDGET WILL MOVE KOREANS IN DIRECTION WE WANT THEM TO GO. WE ARE AWARE THAT MND ALREADY IS CONSIDERING SOME FORCE REDUCTION FOR BUDGETARY REASONS. NEITHER DO I SUGGEST BRINGING UP ANY ISSUES WHICH MIGHT CALL INTO QUESTION OUR BASIC COMMITMENT TO ROK SECURITY, SUCH AS JAPANESE MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN LIEU OF OUR OWN MOD PLAN OBJECTIVES. (I WILL COMMENT IN MORE DETAIL ON THAT QUESTION IN A SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SEOUL 04112 270859 Z

SEPTEL.)

5. IN AFTERMATH NEW FOREIGN POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT ROKG WILL LOOK FOR, AND NEED REASSURANCE, ON OUR BILATERAL SECURITY TIES. TO AVOID COMPROMISING OUR OVERRIDING INTERESTS IN SUPPORTING ROK FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVE, I WOULD NOT WISH TO GO ANY FURTHER THAN THE

MMOD PLAN ISSUES LISTED IN PARA 2 ABOVE UNTIL WE ARE
MUCH FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD.

6. THESE MOD PLAN ISSUES AND OTHERS WILL INEVITABLY
BE MAJOR FOCUS OF SECURITY CONSULTATIVE MEETING (SCM)
NOW SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST. WE WILL FORWARD OUR VIEWS
ON HANDLING THESE ISSUES AT SCM AS PART OF OUR SUB-
STANTIVE PREPARATIONS WHEN DATE OF MEETING IS FIXED.
HABIB

SECRET

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SEOUL04112
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730631/aaaajrmd.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 STATE 118917
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Nov-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <20-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980303
Subject: ROK FOREIGN POLICY CHANGE AND MODERNIZATION PLAN
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, KS
To: CINCPAC
SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005